



Congregation Ahavath Sholom

The Creative Spirit Dwells Here

THE CAS NEWSLETTER

May 2019

Upcoming services and events

Thursday, May 2, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm: People's Pantry at St. James Place, Great Barrington, MA. Generally 2 hour shifts: contact Walter Orenstein at ptcpa@roadrunner.com to participate.

Sunday, May 5, 10:15 am: Book Group: *Rise and Kill First* by Ronen Bergman. Please contact Diana Richter at drpajama1@gmail.com for location of the meeting.

Friday, May 10, 5:30 pm: Shabbat Evening Service and Potluck dinner. Opening of The Language of Color exhibition in the CAS Upstairs Gallery

Monday, May 13, 6:00 pm: CAS Board Meeting.

Saturday, May 18, 10:00 am: Shabbat Morning Service followed by coffee, tea, pastry and conversation.

Sunday, May 19, 2:00 pm: Shabbatai Tzvi, a talk by Rabbi Cohen

Friday, May 31, 5:30: Shabbat Evening Service

This month's newsletter features:

- CAS Second Night Community Seder
- *The Language of Color: An exhibition in the CAS Upstairs Gallery*
- BiddingForGood: The CAS 2019 Fundraising Auction
- The 17th Century False Messiah, *Shabbatai Tzvi: A talk by Rabbi Cohen*
- Milchidika with Marty: *Things a Jewish mother would never say*
- Keep Smiling! A photo memory of Don Victor
- CAS Book Group
- Annual Meeting of Members
- May Yahrzeits
- May Donations
- From Federation: *Who will write our history?*
- From Federation: *Super Sunda*

CAS Community Second Night Seder

Congregation Ahavath Sholom continued our long tradition of hosting a second night community seder on Saturday evening, April 20, at the Apple Tree Inn in Lenox.

Rabbi Cohen and many members and guests celebrated this annual ritual with songs, prayers, dialogue and blessings, accompanied by a delicious meal prepared and served by the Inn's staff.



The Language of Color: An exhibition in the CAS Upstairs Gallery

You are invited to face the spring and embrace the spring with *The Language of Color*.

The show features mixed media works by CAS artists Lori Rothstein, Arthur Hillman, Paul Graubard, Karen Chase, Joan Burkhard, Ilene Spiewak, and Molly Pomerantz.

Collectively, the exhibition will set the tone for growth, renewal of energy, and promise.

The Language of Color is opening Friday evening May 10th.



View from Olana by Lori Rothstein



Flower I by Arthur Hillman



Ruby and the Boys by Paul Graubard



The Roar and Crash of Thought
by Karen Chase



Painting by Joan Burkhard



The Sight of You / When You're Out by Ilene Spiewak



Painting by Molly Pomerantz

BiddingForGood: The CAS 2019 Fundraising Auction

We had very effective BiddingForGood fundraising auctions in 2015, and we're hoping to repeat that success in 2019.

THE AUCTION ISN'T SCHEDULED UNTIL AUGUST, BUT WE NEED TO BEGIN ACQUIRING ITEMS AND SETTING UP OUR AUCTION WEBPAGES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SO PLEASE HELP NOW (SEE BELOW)!

*Congregation Ahavath Sholom is preparing
for our major fundraiser for 2019*

**An exciting
Online Auction
In coordination with
BiddingForGood
*Coming in August!***

Our annual fundraiser supports the operating costs of our small Reconstructionist synagogue and allows us to continue to serve our Berkshire community and sponsor our educational and spiritual programs.

Here's how you can help to make this fundraiser a huge success:

- ✓ Donate items such as art works, craft works, antiques, jewelry, special books, services, wine, etc.
- ✓ Solicit tickets to theater and music venues, restaurant gift certificates, and other items from local merchants, businesses and organizations

Our donations will be seen and bid on by members of CAS, the extended Berkshire community and the BiddingForGood national community of 450,000 bidders

For further information please contact
Arthur Hillman (arthurhillman@roadrunner.com)
or Linda Josephs (tjosephs@roadrunner.com)

The 17th Century False Messiah, *Shabbatai Tzvi*: A presentation by Rabbi Cohen

On Sunday, May 19th at 2:00 pm, Rabbi Barbara Cohen will present a program on 17th century false Messiah, Shabbatai Tzvi, at the synagogue.



Messiah Madness: The Life and Impact of Shabbatai Tzvi, False Messiah

Rabbi Cohen explains, "The longing for a Messiah has often risen in the fertile soil of troubled times, watered by the blood of our ancestors. Many times throughout the history of the Jews, when circumstances became almost unbearable due to oppression, exile and slaughter, the hope for redemption and deliverance from a Messiah, a God-chosen anointed warrior king, a promised deliverer, emerges from the collective misery of the time. Our prophetic writings in the Tanakh, the Hebrew Bible, speak of this individual, who announced by the prophet Elijah, will arise from the line of King David, from the root of Jesse. The anticipation of a Messiah flourishes like a beacon in the darkness of collective Jewish suffering. There have always been individuals, sane or not, who believe themselves to be the next Messiah but their influence is usually limited to a small group of adherents in a limited geographic area. Our exploration of the false Messiah, Shabbatai Tzvi, a 17th century figure of immense impact on the Jewish world, was unlike other outbreaks of messianic fervor in its appeal, scope and effect."

No charge for CAS members; \$10 for non-members.

Milchidika with Marty: *Things a Jewish mother would never say*

"If you're good, I'll buy you a Harley Davidson motorcycle."

"Of course you should walk to school and back. The three large intersections without a crossing guard shouldn't really matter. What's the big deal?"

"Get closer to the screen. How can you see the TV sitting so far back?"

"Could you turn the music up a bit louder, please, so that I can enjoy it too?"

"If you don't have a tissue or a handkerchief, just use your sleeve."

"If your wife wants to move to California to be near her family, it's OK with me."

"Just live with him, you don't have to marry him."

"You really don't have to call me every week. I know how busy you are."

"You can go out without a jacket tonight, it's not that cold out."

"Run and bring me the scissors darling. And hurry up."

"Well if Sammy's mother thinks it's OK, then that's good enough for me."

"Mother's day, Schmother's day, just go to the beach and enjoy yourselves."

"I really like your in-laws. They're such nice people."

"I think a cluttered bedroom is a sign of creativity."

" I cut classes also."

"I saw that your subscription to Playboy magazine was expiring, so I sent in a check to renew,"

"Your wife knows the best-forget the advice that I gave you."

"Go ahead and keep the stray dog, honey. I would be glad to feed him and take him for a walk every day."

A joke that has nothing to do with the above.

First Day in School

A proud young mother see off her son to school on the first day.

"Be a good boy, my boobaleh! Be careful and think of mommy, sweetie! Come right home on the bus schanalah! Mommy loves you sweetie."

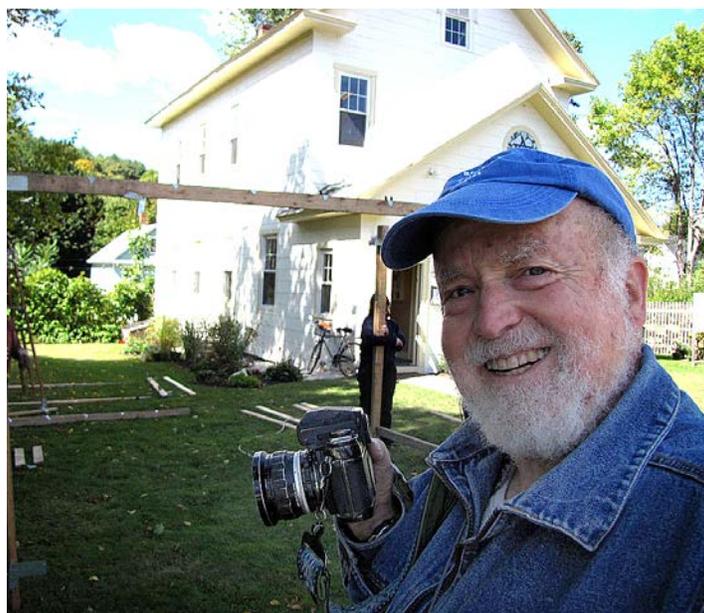
At the end of the day, she is waiting for the bus and sweeps him into her arms. "And what did my love earn on the first day of school?"

"I learned my name is David."

Keep Smiling! A Photo memory of Don Victor

After nearly a year of including photographs by the late Don Victor in each issue of the CAS newsletter, we've gone through most of the CAS-related images in storage in the Great Barrington Historical Society's archive. We may revisit some of these photos at relevant times, but for now we're concluding the series with this May issue.

If any congregants or community members have historical photographs of our building, congregants or any other materials related to Congregation Ahavath Sholom, we'd be thrilled to feature them in future newsletters. If you have any such materials, please contact the synagogue at CASoffice15@gmail.com.

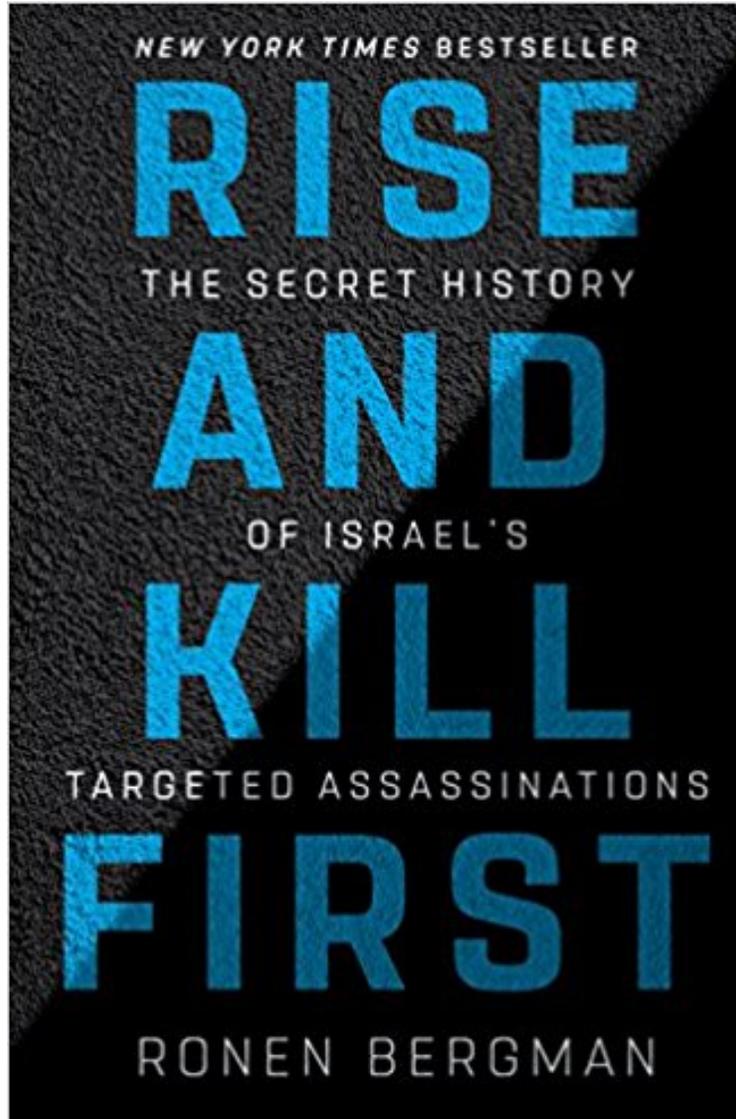


Don Victor in front of CAS
Photograph by David Scribner, The Berkshire Edge

CAS Book Group

The CAS Book Group will meet on Sunday, May 5th at 10:15 a.m. to discuss *Rise and Kill First: The Secret History of Israel's Targeted Assassinations* by Ronen Bergman. This first definitive history of the Mossad, Shin Bet, and the IDF's targeted killing programs, was hailed by The New York Times as "an exceptional work, a humane book about an incendiary subject." It was the winner of the National Jewish Book Award in History in 2018.

Paul Graubard will lead the discussion. Please contact Diana at drpajama1@gmail for further information and location of this meeting.



Annual Meeting of Members

On Sunday July 23, 2019, the Annual Meeting of the congregation will take place at 4:30 pm. At that time there will be a short general report, a financial summary, an election of Board members and reports from CAS committees. Following the meeting there will be a potluck dinner.

May Yahrzeits

“Much of our experience of divine goodness, grace and love has come to us through those whose lives have touched our own.”

Kol Haneshamah

Israel Baron	Nisan 27 5733	5/2
William Shusterman	Nisan 28 5730	5/3
Isaac Shapiro	Nisan 29 5685	5/4
Jacob Penziner	Nisan 29 5722	5/4
Jack Osterweil	Nisan 30 5750	5/5
Edward Goldstein	Iyyar 03 5752	5/8
Florence Bissel Gans	Iyyar 05 5740	5/10
Lillian Cohen	Iyyar 06 5698	5/11
David Levine	Iyyar 06 5750	5/11
Lynne Cutler	Iyyar 06 5767	5/11
Frances Schmetterling Innerfield	Iyyar 06 5769	5/11
Muriel F. Goldman	Iyyar 8 5757	5/13
Joseph Fisher	Iyyar 09 5731	5/14
Helen D. Rawitz	Iyyar 09 5753	5/14
Arthur Winston	Iyyar 10 5778	5/15
Bettye Slaminsky	Iyyar 10 5771	5/15
Perry Winston	Iyyar 11 5664	5/16
Michael Felber	Iyyar 13	5/18
E. Douglas Whitehead	Iyyar 13 5773	5/18
Leonard Robbins	Iyyar 13 5767	5/18
Louis Levine	Iyyar 17 5733	5/22
Alfred Dronge	Iyyar 18 5732	5/23
Mae Osterweil	Iyyar 18 5772	5/23
Joseph Freund	Iyyar 20 5709	5/25
George Slaminsky	Iyyar 22 5735	5/27
Ruby Feldblum	Iyyar 23 5709	5/28
Risa Graubard	Iyyar 26 5775	5/31
Irene Linder	Iyyar 26 5760	5/31

May Donations

Year End Financial Appeal Continuation

Dan and Joan Burkhard
Harriet Bussel
Alan and Roselle Chartock
Candace Docimo
Marilyn Dukoff
Stuart Greenberg
Susan and Gordon Josephson
Iris Stein Korman
Donna Lefkowitz
Patricia Lipman
Paul and Sarah Muscat
Barbara Rubin
Lee Schwartz
Sharon Wiles
Ali Winston
Gail Zinberg

Passover donations

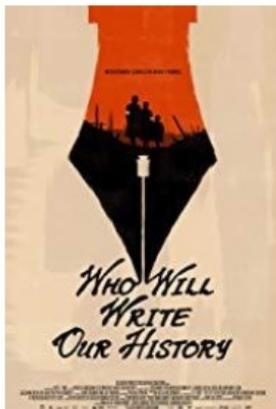
Peter Edelman
Janet Pomerantz
Charles and Karen Schader

Educational Programs

Carol Killian

Who will write our history?

Film Screening In Honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day



Who Will Write Our History

They defied their enemy with the ultimate weapon – the truth!

Days after the Nazis sealed 450,000 Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto, a secret band of journalists, scholars and community leaders, known by the code name *Oyneg Shabes*, vowed to defeat Nazi lies and propaganda not with guns or fists but with pen and paper. Now, for the first time, their story is told as a feature documentary. Executive producer Nancy Spielberg transports us inside the Ghetto and the lives of these courageous resistance fighters who risked everything so that the truth would survive, even if they did not.

Sunday, May 5, 2019 | 2 pm
Berkshire Museum, 39 South St., Pittsfield

After the Film: Join us for a candle lighting, prayers and a moment of reflection in memory of those murdered in the Holocaust.

This event is free and open to the public.

Sponsored by



Jewish Federation
OF THE BERKSHIRES

Super Sunday

CBI Volunteers needed!

Sunday, May 19

We will come together with members of the entire Berkshire Jewish Community to raise money for the Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign. Together, we can build, strengthen and care for our Jewish community across the Berkshires, in Israel and around the world.



MAKE THE CALL

Two convenient phone-a-thon locations.
Food, fun and training provided!

Jewish Federation of the Berkshires
196 South Street, Pittsfield
9 am-12:30 pm

Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center
Administrative Office
244 Main St. Suite #3, Great Barrington
9 am-12:30 pm

Follow up phone-a-thons also need volunteers!
Tues, May 28, 3-5 pm or 6-7:30 pm at Federation
Mon, June 3, 3-6 pm at Hevreh
Thurs, June 13, 3-5 pm or 6-8 pm at Federation

RSVP: 413-442-4360, ext 10
or online at jewishberkshires.org

ANSWER THE CALL

If your phone rings on Super Sunday, answer it. Your contribution to the Federation's 2019 Annual Campaign -- whatever it is you can give -- will help feed the hungry, comfort the elderly and care for Jews in need here at home, in Israel and around the world. It will also help connect our young people to their Jewish identity, build community and help sustain Jewish life in the Berkshires, today and for future generations.

Congregation Beth Israel is a proud affiliate and beneficiary of the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires



Jewish Federation
OF THE BERKSHIRES

Special thanks to the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center and the Berkshire United Way